



Calgary

Office of the Councillors
COUNCILLOR JEROMY FARKAS

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL

July 25, 2019

Glenda Cole, Q.C.
City Manager
The City of Calgary

RE: Proposed Event Centre in Victoria Park: Fulfilling the City of Calgary's Commitment to Calgarians

Dear Ms. Cole,

Thank-you to you and the City of Calgary negotiating team for your commitment and efforts toward producing a proposal for the development and construction of a new Event Centre.

As the Councillor for Ward 11, including Victoria Park and the location of the proposed facility, I am writing on behalf of local residents to express our serious concerns with the process and limited time to review the proposal. As of writing, less than 24 hours remain for Calgarians to provide their thoughts and feedback to the City Clerk on the proposed terms and conditions.

Council unanimously approved a resolution on March 4, 2019 directing administration to work with the Events Centre Assessment Committee to develop a public engagement plan including but not limited to public feedback on the terms and conditions of any potential deal, as well as public input and feedback on the potential Events Centre facility, programming, access, gathering spaces, and other topics of interest.

In passing this resolution, Council promised Calgarians a meaningful engagement period to allow adequate time to review the proposal. I am duty bound to bring to your attention my reasonable concern that a final and rushed decision on the proposed terms and conditions -- without complying with engagement policies or fulfilling the aforementioned commitment to engage Calgarians -- may expose City Council and Administration to reputational, financial, or legal risks.

In light of this, I am asking that the negotiating team make a formal request to Calgary Sports and Entertainment Corporation (CSEC) for an extension of the engagement period and provide a response to this request to Council by Tuesday, July 30th, 2019 at 1:00pm. I join Council colleagues in proposing that Administration bring forward the Council directed engagement plan to the September 5th, 2019 Event Centre Assessment Committee Meeting and that final consideration be brought to the September 30th, 2019 Combined Meeting of Council to make a final decision.

Thank-you for your consideration of a meaningful engagement period to allow citizens and Council the time that we need to perform due diligence and fairly consider this unique opportunity for Calgary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeromy Farkas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeromy Farkas
Councillor, Ward 11

CC: Councillor Jeff Davison, Chair of Event Centre Assessment Committee
Michael Brown, President & CEO, Calgary Municipal Land Corporation
Barry Munro, FCA, Ernst & Young
Mayor Naheed Nenshi
Calgary City Council
Administrative Leadership Team